

The Hong Kong Daily Press.

No. 5673

第三十七百六十五號

日四月初正午西報光

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, JANUARY 29TH, 1876.

六月

九十二月正英

總

PRICE \$24 PER MONTH.

Arrivals.

January 28, Grado, British str., 1,215, Corrigal, Singapore 17th January, General—JARDINE, MATHESON & CO. January 28, LIA, Austrian bark, 906, Francisco Sorensen, Cardiff 30th July, Cools—Oude, January 28, NORDEN, Norwegian str., 778, Jensen, Bangkok 18th January, Rice, & JARDINE, MATHESON & CO. January 28, LOTUS, British str., 1,407, J. Gray, Saigon 28th January, Esso—D. SASSON, Sons & Co. January 28, LY-LOON, British str., 611, Stevens, Saigon 23rd January, Rice—LANSTEIN & CO.

Clearances.

At the HARBOURMASTER'S OFFICE, JANUARY 28TH.
Iris, for Shanghai.
Fu-yeou, str., for Canton.
Rajahammar, str., for Bangkok.
Lusaillo, for Kedung.
Pernambuco, str., for Saigon.

Departures.

January 28, Waco, for Whampoa.
January 28, Fu-yeou, str., for Canton.
January 28, PRESTO, for Tientsin.

Passengers.

ARRIVED:
For China, str., from Singapore:—
6 Chinese.
For Norden, str., from Bangkok:—
16 Chinese.
For Ly-Loon, str., from Saigon:—
Captain J. G. Piton.

Reports.

The British steamer Geosa reports left Singapore on 17th Jan., in fine weather; since then strong N.E. winds and heavy head sea.

The British steamer Lotus reports left Saigon on 21st January, and experienced strong N.E. monsoon throughout.

The Austrian bark LIA reports left Saigon on 23rd January, and experienced fine passage throughout.

The British steamer Ly-Loon reports left Saigon on 23rd January, and experienced N.E. monsoon throughout.

The Norwegian steamer Nordens reports left Bangkok on 18th January, and had moderate N.E. monsoon and sea to Thibozia; since then strong N.N.E. gales and high cross sea.

Vessels that have arrived in Europe from Ports in China, Japan and Manila.

(Per Last Mail Advice)
Fats... From... Date of Arrival
Charity... Manila... Dec. 3
Dorothy... Manila... Dec. 3

Quince... China Ports... Dec. 5
Black Prince... Foochow... Dec. 7
Crescent... Manila... Dec. 8
Emiliano... Manila... Dec. 8
Troy... Manila... Dec. 8
Olympic... China Ports... Dec. 10
Ludovic and Chas. Manila... Dec. 10

Vessels Exported at Hongkong
(Corrected to Date.)

Vessel's Name. From Date
Robert Bock... Plymouth... May 2
Minnesota... Charleston (U.S.) June 20
S. C. Hill... China... July 30
Marie... China... Sept. 4
Ithaca... Hamburg... Sept. 4
Christian... Cardiff... Sept. 7
Cardiff... Cardiff... Sept. 7
August... Cardiff... Sept. 18
Formosa... Hamburg... Sept. 26
Sir H. Parkes... London... Sept. 28
Carrolls... London... Oct. 4
Normans... Cardiff... Oct. 6
Portland... Cardiff... Oct. 13
Eurydice... Cardiff... Oct. 12
Rockwood... Cardiff... Oct. 16
Portland... Portland, O... Oct. 22
British Crown... Cardiff... Nov. 1
Penel... Antwerp... Nov. 13
Canton... Cardiff... Nov. 16
Tasse... New York... Nov. 18
H. Drews... Cardiff... Nov. 20
N. Australia... Cardiff... Nov. 22
Ains... Cardiff... Nov. 23
Ass... Antwerp... Nov. 23
Annie Fish... Cardiff... Nov. 26
Comet... Boston, U.S... Nov. 26
Jylland... Hamburg... Nov. 27
Oceania... Cardiff... Dec. 1
Circus... London... Dec. 6
Mendana... Liverpool... Dec. 7

Action Sales Today.

J. M. ARMSTRONG,
At 12 noon,
The Schooner Yacht Letterer, &c.

VICTORIA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HONGKONG, LIMITED, IN LIQUIDATION.

NOTICE.

All Persons holding Warrants against the unclaimed Dividends, Interest, or Bonuses, are requested to present same for payment at the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK before the 1st APRIL, 1876, otherwise their Claims will not be recognized.

ADOLF ANDRE, F. D. SASSON
1861 Hongkong, 20th December, 1875.

ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, do hereby grant to GRANT INSURANCES at our current Rates.

MELCHERS & CO., Agents, Royal Insurance Company, 1780, Hongkong, 23rd October, 1874.

THE SCOTTISH IMPERIAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Undersigned, having been appointed Agent in Hongkong for the above-named Company, prepared to GRANT POLICIES AGAINST FIRE on Buildings and on Goods to the extent of \$10,000 at the usual rates subject to an immediate discount of 20%.

Attention is invited to considerable reduction in Premiums for Life Insurance in China.

Life Policies effected before the 31st December for the quinquennial period then ending.

A. MAGG. HEATON, 1468 Hongkong, 27th September, 1875.

YANG-TSE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF SHANGHAI.

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS \$80,000 TAELS.

POLICIES granted on Marine Risks to all parts of the World, at current rates.

The Association will, until further notice, provide for the payment of an interest of 15% for unclaimed dividends, interest, and thereafter distribute among Policy Holders annually, in cash, ALL the profits of the Underwriting Business prior to amount of premium contributed.

BUSSELL & CO., Agents, 1089 Hongkong, 9th July, 1872.

To be Let.

TO LET.
Premises on the 1st January, 1876.
THE PREMISES known as the "MESSRS. DENT & CO.'S CENTRAL BUILDING,"
1587 Hongkong, 25th October, 1875.

TO LET.
No. 8, SEYMOUR TERRACE,
No. 3 and 9, PADDABAS BILL,
No. 7, GARDEN ROAD, known as "HOBPEVILLE."

No. 5, ZETLAND STREET.

Apply to DAVID SASSON, SONS & CO.,
153 Hongkong, 27th January, 1876.

TO LET.
With Immediate Possession,

THE Semi-detached RESIDENCES Nos. 1 and 2, WESTHOPE VILLAGE, Hongkong.

The HOUSE at the west end of "The Albany," recently in the occupation of the Hon. C. O. SMITH.

HOUSES on Upper Mosque Terrace.

With Gas and Water laid on.

A First-class GOVERNMENT at Wanchai of about 6,000 tons capacity.

Apply to T. G. LINSTEAD, 144 Hongkong, 28th January, 1876.

TO BE LET.
With Immediate Possession,

THE HOUSE No. 7, Gough Street, Apply to GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO., 1473 Hongkong, 29th September, 1875.

TO LET.
With Immediate Possession,

A FIRST-CLASS GRANITE GODOWN on the Praha, Wanba.

Apply to S. E. BURROWS & SONS, 443 Hongkong, 29th March, 1875.

TO LET.
With Immediate Possession,

THE Premises now occupied SOLE AGENTS in CHINA for the above Establishment.

Apply to BEMEDIES & CO., 151 Hongkong, 22nd January, 1876.

TO LET.
With Immediate Possession,

THE HOUSES No. 3, ABBEY STREET and No. 33, HOLLYWOOD ROAD.

Apply to A. F. ALVES, 181 Hongkong, 3rd January, 1876.

TO LET.
With Immediate Possession,

TWO DWELLING HOUSES and OFFICES, Nos. 14 and 16, Stanley Street, lately in the occupation of Messrs. MAITLAND & CO.

The HOUSE, No. 35, Wellington Street, lately in the occupation of Messrs. DEETER & CO.

The DWELLING HOUSE and OFFICES, No. 1, Stanley Street, lately in the occupation of MESSRS. DEETER & CO.

The DWELLING HOUSES, No. 13, Gage Street, the DWELLING HOUSE, No. 4, Alexandra Terrace.

The STORE and DWELLING HOUSE, No. 31, Queen's Road, lately in the occupation of Miss GARRET.

The HOUSE and OFFICES, No. 3, D'AGRA Street, lately in the occupation of Mr. F. DEGENER.

The STORE and PREMISES, Nos. 42 and 44, Queen's Road, lately in the occupation of Messrs. DEETER & CO.

The Ground and First floors of the HOUSE, No. 1, Wyndham Street, with Stables attached.

DOUGLAS LAYMAK & CO., 1584 Hongkong, 5th January, 1876.

TO BE LET.
With possession on 1st February next.

THE RESIDENCE "IDLEWILD," situated on Seymour Road.

The House and Grounds command a fine view of the Harbour. A good "Kebab" Garden, Stabling, &c., attached.

Apply to M. E. EVERETT, 15, Queen's Road, 1st January, 1876.

TO LET.
With immediate possession,

THE PREMISES lately occupied by THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, Queen's Road.

Apply to G. FALCONER, 1070 Hongkong, 7th July, 1876.

NORTH GERMAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY AT HAMBURG.

The Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to GRANT INSURANCES to the extent of \$65,000, on first-class risks at current rates.

MELCHERS & CO., 171 Hongkong, 1st May, 1874.

THE SECOND COLONIAL SEA AND FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF RATAVIA.

The Undersigned, having been appointed Agents in Hongkong for the above Company, do hereby grant to GRANT POLICIES AGAINST FIRE, on low risk premiums, on first-class Risks, and Brokerage of THIRTY THREE and ONE THIRD PER CENT. (\$34 1/3%) will be allowed on risks to ports in China, Japan, the Philippines, and the Straits. On risk to all other ports the Brokerage will be FIFTEEN PER CENT. (15 3/4%) only.

SIMMSEN & CO., Agents, 1028 Hongkong, 1st January, 1874.

CHINESE INSURANCE COMPANY (LIMITED).

NOTICE.

POLICIES granted at current rates on M. A. R. Risks to all parts of the World. In accordance with the Company's Articles of Association, Two-thirds of the Profits are distributed annually to Contributors, whether Shareholders or not, in proportion to the net amount of Premium contributed by each, and remaining profit being carried to Reserve Funds.

OLYMPIAN & CO., Agents, 1951 Hongkong, 17th April, 1875.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to grant Insurances as follows:

No charge for Policy fees.

J. B. COUGHTRE, Secretary, Hongkong, 1st November, 1871. [In 385]

THE LONDON ASSURANCE COMPANY.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER OF HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE THE FIRST, A.D. 1720.

FIRE RISKS.

Policies granted on First-class Buildings to an extent of \$20,000.

A DISCOUNT OF TWENTY PER CENT. (20%) upon the current local rates will be allowed on premiums charged for insurance, such discount being deducted at the time of the issue of policy.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

Policies issued for long or short periods at a discount of 20%, allowed.

LIFE DEPARTMENT.

Policies issued for sums not exceeding \$5,000, on reasonable terms.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & CO., Agents, 1863 Hongkong, 26th July, 1872.

Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.
I HAVE This Day authorized Mr. J. Y. V. SHAW to SIGN my NAME pro persona.

TO HIS DAIRY.

8, Hongkong, 1st January, 1876.

A. MAGG. HEATON.

1587 Hongkong, 25th October, 1875.

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HOUSES on Upper Mosque Terrace.

With Gas and Water laid on.

Also.

A First-class GOVERNMENT at Wanchai of about 6,000 tons capacity.

NOW READY.

THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY
FOR 1876.
With which is incorporated
"THE CHINA DIRECTORY."

THIS Work, in the FOURTEENTH
year of its existence, is
NOW READY FOR SALE.

It has been compiled and printed at the
Daily Press Office, as usual, from the best
and most authentic sources, and no pains
have been spared to make the work complete
in all respects.

In addition to the usual varied and
valuable information, the "CHRONICLE
AND DIRECTORY FOR 1876" contains a
CHROMO-LITHOGRAPH

OF A

PLAN OF VICTORIA, HONGKONG;
THE
FOREIGN SETTLEMENTS OF
SHANGHAI.

A Chromo-Lithograph Plate of the
NEW CODE OF SIGNALS IN USE A
THE PEAK;

— also —

THE VARIOUS HOUSE FLAGS
(Designed expressly for the Work.)

MAPS OF HONGKONG, JAPAN,

THE

P. & O. COMPANY'S ROUTES,
AND
THE COAST OF CHINA;

ALSO THE

NEW CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE—

HONGKONG.

besides other local information and statistics connected to date of publication, tending to make this Work in every way suitable for Public, Mercantile, and General Offices.

The present Volume also contains a
Dictionary of Singapore.

The CHRONICLE and DIRECTORY is
now the only publication of its kind for
China and Japan.

The Directory is published in two
Forms—Complete at \$5; or, with the Lists
of Residents, Port Directories, Maps, &c.,
at \$3.

Orders for Copies may be sent to the Daily
Press Office, or to the following Agents:

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HANKOW.....Messrs. Hall & Holt and Kelly
EAST ASIA.....Messrs. Hall & Holt & Co., Shanghai.
CIFOO.....Messrs. Hall & Holt, & Co., Shanghai.
NEWCHIANG.....Messrs. Hall & Holt, & Co., Shanghai.
PEKING and Tientsin.....Messrs. Hall & Holt,
EAST ASIA.....Messrs. Hall & Holt, & Co., Shanghai.
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YOKOHAMA.....Mr. C. D. Moss, Japan Gazette
Office.

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LONDON.....Mr. F. A. G. Clement's Sons
LONDON.....Mr. G. G. Green, Cornhill.
LONDON.....Messrs. E. and J. Gold.
SAN FRANCISCO Mr. L. P. Fisher, 21 Merchant's
Exchange.

NEW YORK.....Messrs. S. M. Parsonsill & Co.,
37 Park Row.

Hongkong, January 3rd, 1876.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, JANUARY 29TH, 1876.

The news that troops will be sent through
Burma to meet the Yunnan Commissioners at
Bhamo, received through Reuter's agency, and
published in our columns yesterday, is very
satisfactory. The announcement will, no
doubt, tend to remove a good many apprehensions, not without reasonable foundation, with regard to the safety of the
Honourable W. Grosvenor, and his colleagues. This step has been decided upon, it is to be supposed, by the British
Government on account of the unfriendly
bearing of the Chinese during and after the
negotiations with Sir Thomas Wade, either with the disposition shown by the
Peking Government to shut over the inquiry
and divert attention from the real criminals—the instigators of the atrocious murder of
Mr. Mangay and the attack on Colonel
Brown's party. The propriety of sending an English Commission to the scene of the
outrage—which is so far distant from any
real centre of authority—without a sufficient
armed escort, has always been questioned, and it is gratifying to find that this grave objection is about to be removed. The friends of the Commissioners, who have entertained some very natural fears for their personal
security, will now be relieved of those to a
great extent. This will not, however, be the
only good effect achieved by the movement. The presence of a body of British soldiers in
Yunnan will give the Commissioners greater
weight and influence, and the Chinese
officials will be less disposed to trifl with
men who have an armed force at their back. Mr. Grosvenor will, too, feel his position
strengthened, and be able to speak out more
boldly than if left unprotected amongst the
cruel natives. The inquiry will, in fact, be conducted under changed conditions, and is now far more likely to result in
some of the circumstances attending this
dark deed being brought to light. It
would have been a great pity for so
much time to be thrown away over an
investigation which it was manifest would be a
miserable farce. It is not by any means clear
that the inquiry will not even yet end in
smoke, but the presence of British officials
guarded by British troops in Yunnan will at
least teach a very practical lesson to the
authorities and people of that disorderly
province—namely, that no single individual, subject of Great Britain can be murdered with
impunity, and that, though somewhat tardy
in demanding justice, the British Government
can be persistent in its efforts, and, when roused, will allow no obstacle or trouble
to stand in the way of its attainment. We
trust that now Her Majesty's Ministers
have put their hands to the plough, they will
not look back till the object in view has
been successfully accomplished. To do so
would be to inflict an irreparable blow on the

prestige of Great Britain in the East and
render the maintenance of good relations
with the Chinese well nigh impossible.

IT has often been asserted that the Chinese
Government is practically powerless to take
any effective measure in the direction of sup-
pressing the practice of opium smoking. That this is a complete fallacy we have,
every now and then, most conclusive evidence.
Chinese officials can, when they choose, put
a stop to the public smoking-dens. The
new Governor of Nanking has recently en-
tered a vigorous crusade against the
opium dens of that city, with such effect that
over four thousand of them have been closed.
The drug can, of course, still be bought and
smoked at home, so that no real hardship is
inflicted upon the smokers, while a lot of low
resorts, where they were tempted to indulge
in it to excess, and introduced to the worst
society, have been abolished. From this it will
be apparent that a really energetic Chinese
official can, if inclined, to check the
growth of the practice, though he cannot put
a stop to it altogether. But the vast majority
of officials in the Central Kingdom are
not only disposed to wink at the practice,
but often encourage it as a rose. Very many
of them partake in the drug, and fellow
feeling, it is to be presumed, makes them
"wondrous kind," and disposes them to take
no notice of the progress of the habit. The
assertion that the Chinese have no power to
prevent the increased consumption has been
pretty plainly demonstrated to be inconsistent
with facts; but the action taken by the
Governor of Nanking is worthy of notice in so
far that it affords one more proof of what we
have so often insisted upon—that the Chinese
Government has the power to confine the
consumption of opium in moderate bounds
if it cares to exercise it. Because its officials
so seldom evince any interest in the question,
the British, Indian Government and British
merchants are periodically loaded with reproaches
by well-meaning people in England
suffering from a crotchet.

The reduction of the rate of postage between
India and Great Britain to sixpence is a boon
that has been long and persistently agitated
for. The concession will be hailed with
pleasure by the people of the Straits Settlements,
Hongkong, and the Treaty ports of
China and Japan, for they may reasonably
hope that it will be followed, at no great
distance of time, by some equitable re-
vision of the postage rates from those places.
There is a wide difference between sixpence
and fifteenpence, and no one will plead that
the greater distance furnishes sufficient
ground for it. Eighteen or twenty cents is
the utmost that should be charged for a letter
weighing half an ounce at Brindisi to the
United Kingdom. Now that India and
Australia have both obtained a substantial
reduction in their postal rates, this part of Her
Majesty's dominions should receive some con-
sideration from the Postal Authorities. We
must, however, be content to wait some little
time yet before this comes to pass. But the
case of the residents in China and Japan has
undoubtedly been strengthened by the con-
cession to India, and when new arrangements
have to be made they will be able to present
unanswerable reasons for a reduction in the
postage rates.

The Superintendent of the P. & O. Co. in-
forms us that the steamer Golconda, with the
next English mail, left Singapore for Hong-
kong on Tuesday last at 6 P.M.

By kind permission of the Commodore, sea-
men from the various merchant vessels in port
are invited to call on Mr. H. M. V. Esquenazi to-morrow
morning at ten o'clock. A launch will go
round the harbour to collect those wishing to
attend.

DAVE CARSON AT THE THEATRE
ROYAL.

On Thursday night, as previously advertised,
Mr. Dave Carson and his troupe were charged by the captain
of the steamer Golconda.

It appears from the evidence, that some time
ago the prisoner sold some of the copper placed
in his room and that the witness waited at the
transaction, and said nothing until the second
mate was struck down by the defendant, when
the latter took the opportunity of revealing his
guilt.

He was soon remanded until the 31st
instant for further enquiry.

STEALING A QUILT.

Un Asia, a coolie, was charged with stealing
a quilt, from one Wong Kam Min. Evidence
proved his guilt, and he was sentenced to one
month's hard labour.

ALLEGED RIFT.

Frederick W. Langford, late officer of the
German fleet, was charged by the captain
of the steamer Golconda.

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German fleet, was charged by the captain
of the steamer Golconda.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC NOTES.
A fine theatre, recently built at Bonn in Rhineish Prussia, has been totally destroyed by fire. Three lives were lost.

Mr. Barry Sullivan has met with great success at the National Theatre in Washington. The critics call him a genius.

The price of gold has gone down to \$20,000, that of Bistri at the same figure, and that of prima donna Stoltz and Rossi at \$30,000 each.

Miss Clara Morris, who has returned to New York, will, it is said, "create" the character of Miss Gwilym, in a adaptation by Wilkie Collins of his novel, "Armada"—a strong, but repulsive woman.

Miss Alfred Baylis, a young English tenor, who two years ago made her debut, otherwise under M. Dupree, the well-known Parisian professor, has returned to London to resume his practice of the vocal profession.

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THE KHEDIVE'S LATE BROTHER.
The Paris *Figaro* published an interesting sketch of Mustapha Pashy Pasha, who was well known in Paris, especially among people who lived well and played high. The writer, who visited his Highness when he was living at Constantinople, gives a glowing account of the Oriental magnificence of his establishment. At that time was the late Albert Wolff, of *Le Figaro*, held by what surrounded him. Fifty domestics would have sufficed for this palace, but he fed 300; some because he had known them from birth; others because they had served his father. When Mustapha Pashy offered his hospitality, in spite of the sympathy which their master showed a great number of 300 guests in his house and garden, all of whom were nobles, and held high rank, and the *Figaro* gives the reason for the glories. All that had been said about the civilization of the Turks is a lie; notwithstanding a little of the Turkish, which they hate us, and religious fanaticism dominates every other feeling. The 300 scoundrels lounged about the chamber, and if the Pasha wanted a glass of wine, thirty were duty domesticates to bring him a bottle.

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Extracts.

ART AND ARISTOCEACY.

SHELLEY'S DEATH.
"A little while ago, there died at Spezia, an old sailor, who in his last confession to the priest (who he told, to make it public) stated that he was one of the crew that ran down the boat containing Shelley and Williams, which was done under the impression that the rich Lord Byron was on board with lots of money. They did not intend to sink the boat, but to board her and murder Byron."—*Letter to Mr. Trelawny from his Daughter*, published in the "Times" of Wednesday, December 1, 1875.

What! And it was so! Thou wert then death-stricken from behind,

O heart of man! and were men,

That such a man should die!

Grody bated dashing love,

As a hawk pursues a dove,

Till its soft feathers float upon the carcases wind.

Lothal like! that I might break the chain

Which links my kind with me,

To think that human hands for gain

Should have turned "guineas" then,

When they have given their lives,

For the poor art, that

And weighed itself as dust, quint that felicit!

We dreamt that Nature, jealous grove,

Withdrew the gaudy leaves of life,

In order that we might have our own,

And not to stay, but save,

That the timely took back thus,

What had been lost to us,

Shrinking that in her winds, and hailing "heath" her wave,

It seemed meet thou shouldst not long

Tess of the d'Urberville,

Sleep mild mounds of silvery sleep,

Under the shadowed willows,

And water crystalline,

The amazeballs at thy feet, and seened for thy pillow.

We fit had no right to keep

What never had our care,

That thou belonged to the deep,

And the unending hours;

That than earthly no more wert,

Than the rainbow's melting skirt,

The aurochs' fabled skin, and midnight's abiding bower.

And, thus resigned, our empty hands

Surrendered to thine,

Thinking thee drawn by the hundred bands

Upon thy silvered hair,

Playing them on next-string shell,

Timid to Ocean's mystic swell,

The lyrical complaints and prophetic divine.

But now to hear as Naiad doed

Sobheno thus with her smile,

And thy blind Mother would have spared

Thee to yeabwah,

Bro for ghoul in human mould,

Ravaging the seas for gold,—

Or this that oft the heavens, and makes were living vio!

Yet, south 'twas well that shold not want

The martyr's useful name,

Our victim thus becomes our vane;

Thy grey robes made our home;

Living with the dead that are

New to us to learn to fit,

Upon whose forehead shines the unsetting star of Fame!

Spectator.

Arcus Aurn.

UTILISING COBWEBS.

Cobwebs have been applied to various uses. The delicate hairs, says *Dickinson's Cyclopaedia*, in the telescopes of surveying instruments are five webs taken from spiders of species that are especially selected for their production of an excellent quality of this material. The spider, when caught, is made to spin its thread by tossing him from hand to hand, in case he is indisposed to furnish the skele. The end is attached to a piece of wire, which is doubled into two parallel lengths, the distance apart exceeding a little the diameter of the instrument. As the spider hangs and descends from this, the web is wound up by turning the wire round. The coils are then gummed to the wire and kept for us to require. About a century ago, Bois de Langouet succeeded in making a pair of gloves and a pair of stockings from the thread of a spider. They were very strong, and a beautiful grey colour. Other attempts of the same kind have been made, but Beauvarre has stated that the web of the spider was not equal to that of the silkworm either in strength or lustre. The cocoons of the latter weigh from three to four grains, so that 2,304 worms produce a pound of silk; but the bags of the spider, when cleaned, do not weigh above the third part of a grain.

CANNIBALISM.

The *Journal des Débats* publishes the following account of cannibalism, which seems to be still practised in different parts of the globe. Colonel de Brazza, charged by the French Government with a scientific mission to the equatorial parts of Africa, has arrived at Sennar. He is now on the point of entering the central regions of Africa, where he will have to encounter the greatest dangers from the cannibal tribes, 420 miles from Sennar, whence we heard not long ago about an Egyptian explorer having narrowly escaped becoming food for cannibals, cut off from the earth by the Spaniards in this part of the Archipelago has greatly diminished those barbarous customs. They are, however, encountered still in the interior of Africa, India, South and North America, and in Polynesia where the most ferocious are found in the islands of Viti. Anthropophagy, or the eating of human flesh, is variously practised in those countries. In New Zealand they eat the eyes and the heart, under the belief that the victim is not struck off from the Book of Life unless they do. In South America cannibalism is the authorised mode of punishment, each family roasting and eating its dead. In India there are still some families who kill and eat those of their number who are afflicted with incurable diseases. In one part of Sumatra anthropophagy is established as a legal system. The penal code condemns to be eaten alive all persons found guilty of adultery, also burglars and all prisoners of war. The victims in these cases are carried to a public place tied to a post, cut up into pieces, and eaten raw by the master of the aristocracy; perhaps birth is not conducive to talent. High-minded, far-sighted, Joshua Reynolds, were men of low origin, but even genius is not born without training; with neither a mother nor other who can teach him to copy, a few bad-historical models of her master's style, or in depicting a shepherd or a man in a bit of silk intended for a fan or a handkerchief. These compositions afford to the numerous inferior persons who sought him. After dinner he conversed for several hours with his guests. The rest of the day was employed in state affairs, in receiving ambassadors, and marking the stage at which the amateur invariably stands still, or from which he never recedes. Thus if painting and music are high art, and the most noble and elevating of pursuits, should it not be supposed that time, labour, and intelligence need not be bestowed on them? Curious enough, when the victim is an adulterer, it is the husband who comes up first to the state and chooses a tit-bit generally, the estate—which he cuts off and eats with the utmost relish. When everybody has helped himself to a piece of flesh, and nothing is left but the skeleton of the condemned, the chief of the party appears, cuts off the head, and carries it away as a trophy. These monstrous executions are conducted with the greatest deliberation each of these present eating his piece of human flesh with the conviction that by doing so he is performing an act of justice. Cannibalism is still practised by the Huron tribes of North America, the Iroquois in Canada, and the Caribee tribes, the primitive inhabitants of the Lesser Antilles, and the southernmost parts of America. They are found in small numbers still in Venezuela and Guiana (Guyana), and are considered very enterprising, warlike, and ferocious. From Africa, which is now being explored, we may expect some further disclosures, and the *Journal des Débats* states as a fact, that among the Jaga men in Africa, better known as the Cassavae, not far from South Guinea, the bodies of men and women, cut up into joints, are exposed for sale, just like butcher's meat, in the tribal market-places,

PROPOSALS.

It is said that during the London season this year there were singularly few proposals. Perhaps it was the prevalence of cold weather that the gentlemen were so hurried from Paris to Richmond, that they had no time to think of such things. However, the average seems to have been made up accord- ing to natural laws afterwards, if one may judge by the number of fashionable marriages which have taken place during the autumn, and there are several still to come off. A proposal itself is a good omen, and parsonage, with exceeding bad taste takes upon itself to assert what number of proposals of these brides she has received. We need not ask if the old etiquette that a lady does not publish her rejections has, with other good things, gone out of fashion; for of course it was only this penny-a-liner's initiative importance.—*Saturday Review*.

ADMIRABLE SAVINGS HAVE BEEN MADE ABOUT THE EDUCATION OF POOR CHILDREN, OR THE NEEDS FOR IMPROVEMENT IN FEMALE SCHOOLS.

Mr. Forster only lately, when he opened a high-grade girls' grammar-school at Bradford, eloquently insisted on the right of every poor girl to acquire knowledge and the opportunity of developing her talents; but of the girls of the upper ten thousand no one seems to take account. Yet education does not spread upwards but downwards; and without sharing Mr. Buckle's opinion that vice is less reprehensible than ignorance, yet we must allow that they are closely allied and firm friends; while idleness, if it is not culpable in itself, invariably taints everything evil.

Poor girls are brought up to earn a living, which is a natural, creditable aim; for what purpose are rich girls educated? Some sort of ultimate end must pervade the minds of their mothers and of those unhappy ladies whom we honour even while we disapprove of, and who are supposed to conduct their pupils' education by driving them more or less willingly in the shafts of conventionalities. We will not now enter upon the disputed question of what constitutes a sound education, but simply confine ourselves to what savours of art. Through our grandmothers, good simple souls, were not artistic in the modern sense of the word (for their accomplishments consisted only in playing moderately well on the harp, chiefly cultivated because it displayed a well-rounded arm to great advantage, and in working numerous roses and lilies in wool-work, much admired by that generation), yet what knowledge they did possess was both thorough and practical. They could make all manner of dainty preserves, decorations, and distillations; they were conversant with every detail of the dairy, the kitchen, and the larder; they loved fine needlework, and took a pride in the house-wives who did not remember the old linen-press, with its faint odour of lavender and rose-leaves, and vista of snowy piles of immeasurable damage? They ruled the men and maid-servants with a firm and gentle hand, and were not above giving an eye to the arrangements when their lord and master feasted the neighbouring gentry. Such things are, of course, beneath the notice of the present generation of fine ladies; but those good old dames were, nevertheless, from being destitute of education; they could all write a letter (not a note), they had read our standard English authors—men who knew at least how to write good English, some of them even were classical scholars. Girls of the present day have learnt more, perhaps; but what do they know well? What, for instance, could have mastered a subject?

Accomplishments are anything but frivolous if they are looked at in the right spirit.

Her daughter is perchance musical; let her learn thorough bass and harmony, so at least she will be competent to take a second in a duet, to transpose a song, or improvise an accompaniment—all charming and rare advantages. The ordinary young lady can only play set pieces on the piano that she has learnt at the price of Heaven; she knows how many valuable hours practising; she never remembers anything by heart, could not compose two notes to save her life, and cannot repair by ear the simplest melody out of a hundred. She is perfectly ignorant of the history of music, hates classical works, and despises the masters, save Verdi, Donizetti, Offenbach, and Mozart, the latter only as the composer of "Don Giovanni." G. Ricordi, the author of the *Leviathan*, prettily writes, "I have not equalled the *Leviathan* in size, but I have exceeded it in weight."

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